



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/821,741
Filing Date: April 9, 2004
Applicant: Werner Stuffle et al.
Group Art Unit: 2875
Examiner: William J. Carter
Title: LOUDSPEAKER UNIT WITH SOURCE OF LIGHT

Attorney Docket: SCH-00086

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS, AND OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications and other information submitted for consideration by the Office (except unpublished U.S. patent applications) are listed on Form 1449 or PTO/SB/08a and 08b attached hereto.

II. COPIES

A. ☒ Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. patent application publication and U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; (iii) for each cited pending U.S. application, the application specification including the claims, and any drawing of the application which caused it to be listed including the claims directed to that portion; and (iv) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.

B. ☐ Any patents, publications or other information which are listed on Form 1449 or PTO/SB/08a and 08b or on the copies of PTO-892, were previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in one of the following applications which has been relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120:

U.S. Serial Number

U.S. Filing Date

C. ☐ This is a PCT application in the entry of the National Phase in the United States. A copy of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. The documents listed on the International Search Report are listed on the attached Form-1449 or PTO/SB/08a and 08b for consideration by the Examiner and for listing on any patent resulting from this application. Since the International Search Report was from the US, EPO, or JPO search authorities, copies of these references should have been supplied to the USPTO under the trilateral agreement and are believed to be in the file of the above-identified application. (MPEP 1893.03(g))

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

A. ☐ Except as may be indicated below in (B), all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language (concise explanation not required).

B. ☒ A concise explanation of the relevance of each patent, publication or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)):

1. ☐ See the attached foreign search report.
2. ☐ English translations are provided for:
3. ☒ Other:

C. ☐ The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

IV. CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)

A. ☐ The Examiner is advised that the following co-pending application(s) contain(s) subject matter that may be related to the present application. By bringing this(these) application(s) to the Examiner's attention, Applicant(s) does(do) not waive the confidentiality provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 122.

Serial No.

Filing Date

Art Unit

V. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER

A. ☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b): (check only one box)

1. ☐ within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d) (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1)). No fee or certification is required.

2. ____ within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2)). No fee or certification is required.

3. ☒ before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3)). No fee or certification is required. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and see the certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) below; or, if no certification has been made, charge our deposit account a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

4. ____ before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No fee or certification is required.

B. ____ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c): (check only one box)

- before the mailing date of either any Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution.

1. ____ No certification; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

2. ____ See the certification below. No fee is required.

C. ____ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d):

- after the mailing date of either a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, yet on or before payment of the issue fee.

1. ____ See the certification below. A fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

D. ____ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i):

- This Information Disclosure Statement does not comply with any of §1.97(b), (c) or (d), and therefore will not be considered by the Office, but will be placed in the file.

VI. CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e): (check only one box)

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

A. each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)); or

B. no item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2)).

C. Some of the items of information were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office. As to this information, the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby certifies that no item of this remaining information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

VII. PAYMENT OF FEES (check only one box)

A. Payment by Credit Card. Form PTO 2038 is enclosed in the amount of \$180.00 for the above-identified fee.

B. ☒ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed for the above-identified fee.

C. Please charge Deposit Account No. 501612 in the amount of \$180.00 for the above-indicated fee. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

The above references are being cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art, contain matter which anticipates the invention, or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Furthermore, this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made.

If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 501612.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 501612.


Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: November 3, 2005

PRW:SPR:slm
Enclosures

By: 
Philip R. Warn
Reg. No. 32775



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT – CONCISE EXPLANATION
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3)

DE 201 12 892

DE 201 12 892 discloses a speaker with a flashlight (12), wherein the flashlight (12) is positioned on a command unit (10) that lies on the iron core of the loudspeaker. The iron core of the loudspeaker, and therefore the flashlight (12), are surrounded by the diaphragm (5). Electrically, the flashlight is being wired in parallel with the loudspeaker via the loudspeaker wires; therefore, the flashlight is driven with alternating current. A change in the audio signal directly influences the flashlight (12). There is a large installation outlay involved in order to mount the command unit (10) and the flashlight (12) onto the iron core.

The present invention is distinguishable in that the light source (21) is fixed outside the diaphragm (14) on the chassis (13). Furthermore, in the present invention the light source (21) is connected to the direct-current network onboard the motor vehicle. At least these features patentably distinguish the present invention from DE 201 12 892.

FR 2 781 971

FR 2 781 971 discloses a transparent diaphragm plate (1), suspended so that it can vibrate. A light source (2) is fixed on the diaphragm. This light source (2) is electrically wired in parallel with the audio signal so that the light source (2) blinks with the frequency of the audio signal. The diaphragm plate (1) is suspended in a motor vehicle by the electrical wires.

The present invention is distinguishable in that it discloses a compact loudspeaker which solves the problem of a large transparent diaphragm plate (1) by disclosing a light source (21) connected to a chassis (13) outside the diaphragm (14). This feature patentably distinguishes the present invention from FR 2 781 971.

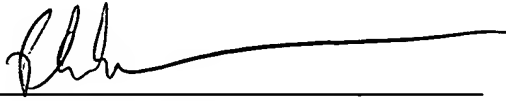
JP 2002 096 691

JP 2002 096 691 is of interest in that it discloses a loudspeaker grille with a LED.

The present invention discloses a light source that is inserted into the chassis of the loudspeaker outside the diaphragm. At least these features are patentably distinguish the present invention from JP 2002 096 691.

Respectfully submitted,

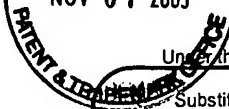
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If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.